Elimination of child labour

981. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are committed to eliminate child labour in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the action plan to tackle this complex socio-economic problem and the number of child labour likely to be benefited; and

(c) the total number of child labour in the country and to what extent country has been able to control this menace?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Child Labour Policy has been framed to eliminate child labour in the country. The action plan comprises of legislative measures, general development programmes for benefiting children and a project-based action plan in areas of high concentration of child labour. The Government of India has taken up the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme in 270 districts for the elimination of child labour in hazardous sectors by the end of the Tenth Plan.

(c) Authentic figures on the number of working children in the country are generated during the decennial census. As per the 2001 census, the number of working children in the country is 1.259 crore (provisional). Through the implementation of NCLPs in the country, about 4.16 lakh children have been covered under this scheme.

Social Security for unorganised sector

982. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Social Security Scheme for the unorganised sector was launched in January, 2004;